

NPL Site Narrative for Onalaska Municipal Landfill

ONALASKA MUNICIPAL LANDFILL

Onalaska, Wisconsin

Federal Register Notice: [September 21, 1984](#)

Conditions at listing (September 1983): The Town of Onalaska owns and operated a landfill in Onalaska, about 10 miles north of La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, from 1969 to 1980. The site is within 500 feet of the Black River, near where it meets the Mississippi River. The landfill accepted residential, commercial, and industrial wastes. The site operators buried various laboratory solvents from 1971 to 1974 and significant quantities of naphtha and PTL-1009, a synthetic lubricant, from 1975 to 1978. The equivalent of 2,500 drums of solvent wastes are estimated to have been disposed on-site. Soils underneath the unlined disposal site are highly permeable, and ground water is believed to rise into the waste during part of the year. As a result, although the landfill was covered in 1982, waste products are leaching through the soil. Sampling by the State established that ground water and a nearby private well are contaminated with various organic compounds.

Status (June 1984): EPA is considering various alternatives for the site.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The

description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See [56 FR 5600](#), February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]